



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department Of Agriculture Rural Development
Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Neb. 68508
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USDA ANNOUNCES APPLICATION TIMEFRAMES FOR HOUSING PROGRAMS

Lincoln, Nebraska, March 15, 2005 – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Housing Service published NOTICES in the March 14, 2005 Federal Register announcing the timeframes and guidelines for applications to be submitted under the agency's following programs: Rural Rental Housing (RRH), Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing (GRRH), Farm Labor Housing (FLH) and Housing Preservation Grant (HPG). Applications are awarded funding based on a national competitive application process.

The Rural Rental Housing (RRH) loan program helps build and maintain affordable multi-family housing rental developments in rural areas. Potential applicants include individuals, corporations, associations, partnerships, limited partnerships, state or local public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes. Only rural rental housing proposals located in the state's designated places will be accepted for review. Designated places were selected based upon certain demographic data that indicated a possible need for additional affordable rental units. Fiscal Year 2005 Nebraska designated places are: Alda, Ansley, Arapahoe, Atkinson, Aurora, Bassett, Battle Creek, Bayard, Beemer, Bertrand, Blue Hill, Cairo, Cambridge, Cedar Bluffs, Central City, Chadron, Chapman, Chappell, Clarkson, Clay Center, Crawford, Crete, Deshler, Doniphan, Dorchester, Eagle, Elgin, Elmwood, Elm Creek, Emerson, Ewing, Exeter, Fairbury, Fairmont, Fort Calhoun, Franklin, Friend, Genoa, Gering, Gibbon, Grant, Gretna, Harvard, Hays Springs, Hebron, Henderson, Hickman, Holdrege, Hooper, Humboldt, Humphrey, Imperial, Indianola, Juniata, Kenesaw, Kimball, Louisville, Loup City, Lyons, Milford, Minatare, Mitchell, Morrill, Nelson, Newman Grove, Ogallala, Osceola, Osmond, Overton, Oxford, Pawnee City, Pender, Plainview, Ravenna, Red Cloud, Rushville, Sargent, Scribner, Seward, Shelton, Stanton, St. Paul, Stromsburg, Superior, Sutherland, Syracuse, Tecumseh, Terrytown, Tilden, Utica, Valley, Wausa, Waverly, Wayne, West Point, Weeping Water, Wilber, Wood River, Wymore, and Yutan. Deliver applications to USDA Rural Development, Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3888 by May 13, 2005, 5:00 P.M. CT.

Applicants may apply for a Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing (GRRH) loan through an eligible lender to develop new structures or to acquire and rehabilitate existing structures. The lender provides the loan funds with USDA Rural Development guaranteeing the loan for up to 90 percent of total development cost. Potential applicants include nonprofit corporations, public bodies, and for-profit organizations. Applications should be submitted by June 13, 2005. Responses received after this date will be held for review subject to availability of funds. Interested lenders must submit loan applications to USDA Rural Development, Rm. 152 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508-3888.

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The Farm Labor Housing (FLH) program assists in financing the construction, acquisition and rehabilitation of off-farm housing units for domestic farm laborers. FLH loans and grants are authorized to be made to broad-based nonprofit organizations, nonprofit organizations of farm workers, public agencies, Indian Tribes, and subdivisions of state and local government. Deliver applications to USDA Rural Development, Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3888 by May 13, 2005, 5:00 P.M. CT.

Housing Preservation Grants (HPG) provide funding to selected recipient organizations (grantee) to develop programs that financially assist in the repair and rehabilitation of individually owned housing, rental properties, or co-ops owned and/or occupied by eligible households. Potential applicants include qualified state and local governments, private nonprofit organizations, Federally recognized Indian Tribes, or consortium of eligible entities. Deliver applications to USDA Rural Development, Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3888 by May 13, 2005, 5:00 P.M. CT.

Contact the Nebraska USDA Rural Development State Office for additional information and application packages at 402-437-5594 for RRH, GRRH & FLH programs and 402-437-5035 for the HPG program; or write USDA Rural Development, Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3888. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>.

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USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to USDA, Director, OCR, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.